MARYLAND

COLONIZATION JOURNAL.

CONDUCTED BY JAMES HALL, GENERAL AGENT OF THE MARYLAND STATE COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

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"Nothing is more clearly written in the Book of Destiny, than the Emancipation of the Blacks; and it is equally certain that the two races will never live in a state of equal freedom under the same government, so insurmountable are the barriers which nature, habit and opinion have established between them." JEFFERSON.

THE present No. of the Journal, has been delayed over two weeks in order to prefix to it a cut of the Liberia Packet, and which, at last, we shall have to reserve for a future number, as the month has almost expired.

We consider this statement or apology the more necessary, as the contents of this Journal do not give indications of any very severe mental labour, or research, on part of the editor; being clipped almost entirely from the last file of Africa's Luminary received in this country. There are two good reasons for this *make up*, 1st, the matter is such as literally belongs to the JOURNAL, it forms a *journal* of the doings in the colonies, and the mission stations connected therewith. 2dly, The editor has so much to do, in connection with the Liberia Packet, and other matters always pressing at this season, that he has no time for "*inditing a good matter.*"

FALL EXPEDITION.

The new barque, "The Liberia Packet," will positively sail for Liberia, from this port, perhaps touching at Norfolk, on the 15th November. Who makes the first trip in the new vessel?

FROM LIBERIA.—We are permitted to publish the following extracts of letters from Wm. C. Cornish, to his father, the Rev. Samuel E. Cornish, of this city. The value of the writer's testimony is enhanced by the fact, that till recently he was an abolitionist, and, with his father and other family friends, has regarded the efforts of the Colonization Society with distrust.

MONROVIA, AFRICA, *June 25th*, 1846.

The good bark Chatham arrived safely at Monrovia in thirty-six days. We anchored a mile from the shore, between two American vessels of war. We were becalmed five days within 150 miles of the coast; also by night had tremendous squalls, which are common on this coast. Independently of the calm and squalls, we had a delightful passage. As soon as we anchored, the natives came out to us from all directions in their canoes. If it were not for these natives or "Kroomen," as they are called, it would be very difficult getting anything on shore from vessels coming to this port. We arrived in the morning, and in the afternoon the Captain, Mr. Roye, and myself went on shore, and proceeded directly to the Government House,

where we were very kindly received by Gov. Roberts, Judge Benedict, and the principal gentlemen in the place. I presented my letters of introduction to Mr. Roberts and Mr. Benedict. They seemed somewhat surprised at my coming here. Dr. Roberts leaves in the Chatham for your city, with a view to complete his medical education. Captain Bearse deserves our thanks for his kindness to us during the passage.

On a person's first view of this place, he is very apt to form a poor opinion of it. This was the case with me; but after I had been amongst the people, and saw the manner in which they lived, and how intelligent and refined they were, and above all, that they enacted, and were governed by their own laws, and when I considered that I was for the first time in my life, breathing a free atmosphere, and in a country where the white man does not hold sway, and an indivdual, however humble, if he qualifies himself, may attain to eminence and distinction; I really felt surprised that I could have remained contented so long in America.

I sincerely think that if the coloured people of the U. S. could only see what a fine country this is, and might be made by a little exertion, their prejudices against the Colonization Society and the Colony would be entirely removed. From hearing the captain and sailors conversing concerning the malignity of the African Fever, and of the many deaths that had been occasioned by it, I was frequently discouraged; for it seemed almost certain death for a person to stop on shore even for one night. I have conversed with several of the Colonial physicians upon the subject. They informed me that the change from the temperate to the torrid zone is so great, that most people coming here necessarily have to pass through the acclimating process; but there is not the least danger to be apprehended from it, providing you take care of yourself.—if you get wet, change your clothes as soon as possible, and not expose yourself to the night-dews. They say that it has a great resemblance to the Fever and Ague that you have in the United States, only that it is not half so severe. On the first settlement of this country, a great many died; but this was owing no doubt, more to the suffering they experienced in their passage, by being too much crowded while on ship board, and living upon the coarsest food, and their going down into the other settlements, where there had been no accommodations provided for them. There are persons that have been here 18 or 20 years, and have never been afflicted in the least by the fever; so you see that it is greatly exaggerated.

The Colony is about declaring its independence.

This is their rainy or winter season. It generally continues three months, seldom raining except in the night. Mr. Roye has taken a store, and will soon commence business.

Monrovia, *June* 27, 1846.

This is really a beautiful country. From the situation of this place it might be supposed to suffer from intense heat, during at least one-half the year; but this is provided against by the sea breeze, which blows with great regularity, and refreshes, what would otherwise prove a sultry and oppressive climate. The thermometer seldom ranges above 90 deg., the air is temperate in the day time, and the nights are cool, the same clothing is worn here that is worn in the U. S., flannels not excepted. The population of Monrovia is estimated at one thousand. The wealthier and more respectable portion of the community are engaged in trade. The natives bring them palm oil, camwood and ivory; and they receive goods in return. If the people here only had the Yankee enterprise and industry, they might make this one of the richest and most beautiful countries in the world. Vessels come here from all parts of the world for the purpose of traffic. They trade

with the natives up and down the coasts, and in a few years the Captains of them become independently rich.

Our Governor is considered as being very wealthy, and lives in grand style, does a great deal of trading, and has charge of the Public Stores. I now see the importance of having a good character, for if it had not been for your name and reputation, perhaps I should not have been so well received. You would be astonished if you could only see how readily goods of every description sell here, especially provisions, such as Flour, Pork, Beef, Hams, Butter, Cheese, Sugar, Lard, Mackerel, Raisins, Salæratus, and Groceries of all kinds are in great demand.

The women dress as finely here as they do in the U. S. They do not pretend to wear domestics, all their finery must be imported. This makes an excellent market for fine goods of all sorts, such as calicoes, muslins, linens, shawls, stockings, &c. If Mr. Roye had brought out ten times as much as he did, he would have come somewhere near the mark.

I really wish you would make up your mind to visit this country. The whole continent is one despository of curiosities. Mechanics are very much needed. Clothing is very scarce here, there is not a tailor in the place. Please send me what clothing you can obtain. Flannel is considered as being a great protection in this climate.

Your affectionate Son, WM. C. CORNISH.

Rev. Samuel E. Cornish, corner of 4th and Wooster sts., New York City.

MISSIONARY INTELLIGENCE.

We make the following free extracts from the April, May and June Nos. of Africa's Luminary.

MOUNT ANDREW, UPPER GOULAH, *February 22nd*, 1846.

Rev. J. B. Benham, Dear Sir,—This leaves us all (through the blessing of God) well. Our school at Mount Andrew is opened and all our children are seemingly willing to try to learn, and so far we have had a goodly number out to preaching. I must say I feel more encouraged than I ever did in Goulah, and a greater desire, a stronger determination to dedicate ourselves to the work before us. I write you this more in reference to the Morrisburg circuit. The king is very much pleased with brother Lawrence, so is brother L. with him, he has aided him not only by his personal attendance at his appointment, but in bringing the people out to hear the "word of life." Brother Lawrence and King Dwalawar are both up here. The old heathen contends for a boarding school of ten children in his town, and notwithstanding his activity and pleasure, seems disappointed that we were not authorised to establish one, that his children might be taken wholly off his hand and "learned American fashions and God palaver too." He says "the parents of the children, are not able to find them and send them to school too," 2dly. They knowing not the need of it, are not disposed to do it. 3dly. In farming and harvest time, the adults live chiefly on their farms, and must have their children with them. 4thly. There are ten boys in the town from 10 to 14 years of age who might at once be bound.

These children he has given up to brother Lawrence or rather forced them upon him. Bro. L. has determined to try to feed them, independent of parents, and as far as he can of the Missionary Society, until I can hear from you. At the conference in 1845 ten boys were allowed to be boarded at Morrisburg, but for certain reasons the Superintendent made no such allowance. To accede to his request now I really believe will result in good, as the king has promised as a condition, to enlarge and build up the town, and make it his chief town, residing there altogether.

And now my dear Brother if God will answer prayer, your life will be preserved with that of your colleague our dear brother Hoyt and your families, and God will prosper you in his way and bless the labours confided to you.

Four of the Congoe recaptives unable to travel, I gave over to the Rev. B. R. Wilson. Six reached the station. One attempted to follow John Barton with those he brought, came within 12 miles of this place (so I am informed) and would have reached here had he not lost his way in the Great Devil's bush. This boy, as many have died, I added to my six, making 7 Congoes, and 14 Goulah boys.

The Island is being cleared. My houses were not built according to promise, nor any more clearing done after I left for conference; we are now preparing to lay in the ground cassadas, &c. &c. We want garden seeds as well as fruit trees. Most of my boys have only one shirt each, I find it hard with only one to keep them decent, I want at least 15 more; brother Lawrence wants 20 for his station, if they are to be had.

Brother Lawrence needs ten spelling books, we also want books. I hired Squire Chase for $25 and find him, to assist in keeping school and interpret; his board I give him for other service rendered: I cannot tell whether you will pay him or not, I hope you will, if not I must.

Both brother Hazel and myself, will have our time much divided between this place and Garrettson; and at the farm, about the buildings, &c., and Chase's services will be very much needed.

Give our best love to brother and sister Hoyt, sisters Benham and Williams.

Still pray for us that God may revive us again. Yours in love,

ALFRED F. RUSSELL.

MOUNT ANDREW, GOULAH, *March 17th*, 1846.

Rev. and Dear brother Hoyt,—I write this not knowing when you will receive it. Sometimes sending letters from here, reminds me of shipwrecked mariners exposing a few lines to the waves of the Ocean in a corked bottle, sometimes they are received after several weeks, at others not at all.

Up to this date I have not received one line of intelligence from any one, and have on several occasions been exercised with much anxiety about those dear to me.

Man is so soon gone out of time, or changed in opinion: when sickness blasts, or the complicated wheels of Providence seems against him or ready to crush him under them.

So soon do we forget that we cannot be forever on top of the wheel, that I sometimes catch myself (even when I bring *you* forth as a good soldier who entered the field to gain the victory or be flayed alive) asking is he dead, or has he yielded to discouragements and gone?

The answer is generally encourageing, for I feel a kind of "no" to impress my mind, "he lives and when he cannot work he can pray," and the praying of Paul and his companion in prison, and of the saints for Peter chained between the guard, says it is enough, all is right.

Desiring as I do that this may find both you and good sister Hoyt living and wishing it, if possible to find you well, I hope you will receive it, as an inquiring after your health, and if I be allowed your wishes, hopes and determinations. One hath said "let a thousand fall, but let not Africa be given up." O that I could say let a thousand live, to bring about as God's instruments, the redemption of this dark, down-trodden race. You doubtless wish to hear of us, and the state of this part of our country.

We are on our stations, and I think not asleep. At times we have a tolerable congregation, who pay attention and seem sometimes to understand what we try to speak, clear, and plain. We have a good school, and the children seem to move slowly onward, brother Hazel teaches the school, and I do the preaching, building, feeding, farming, &c., or see it done. We have our toils and thank God they are not above what we are able to bear, because He that called and is with us is Almighty, we act for him—I cannot write particularly of Morrisburg, though I have seen brother Lawrence once and King Dwalawar several times, I know the man there. He is a witch-man, punctual, *so far* zealous. We hear of one convert, and brother Lawrence tells me he seems to speak as one who had received the witness in himself, and others were asking help from on high. Past unhappy experience says be cautious, it is best to shout when we are sure of victory, be content to be glad when one seems happy. So I fear, tremble, doubt, and am glad. I do not doubt God, my brother, nor his power to save, nor do I doubt the power of his Gospel, but a heathen African raised in the school of slight-of-hand and deception, and who will not scruple for one leaf of tobacco to play with the most sacred things and privileges of our church, the fruit of six years experience says be cautious. Thank God we have no "dashes" to hold out, some of our school boys have but one shirt, no boxes of goods come to us, we have no piles of clothes to point to and say "these are for those who will look God," and after being careful as we can, after repairing our clothes and shoes at the end of each year, we very often miss a few cents to jingle. Now I don't like to misjudge or to judge at all. I have no motive for so doing. So far as fame and praise are concerned, look at Eternity, at the worth of the soul, and all says "be cautious."

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Keep up good spirits, be cheerful, still look up to him that called, he will qualify you, and spare you long enough to do his will. Our country is all through sounding with horns, the country Devils sometimes two and three at once, croaking on all sides, and as there is peace after twenty years war, which has debarred men who are now well advanced in years, from taking upon them the privileges of the citizenship of that country for which they have been so long fighting, to obtain this privilege, is now entered into—after which the elderly women are to go, then the youth of both sexes, in their respective "Devil Bushes," this will occupy the space of more than two years, little or no farming going on, so I look forward to hard times, *for them*, at least.

The people did not work a moment on the island, where our new mission establishment is going up, after we left for conference. The little I saw done, was all that was attended to. The trees and bushes on Trinity Island are now cut down and one house going up. Timbers are being collected for the other. We want a chapel; I find after all, our church devotions do not take as well out of doors, as they did in the old chapel.

Pray for us, yours in love, ALFRED F. RUSSELL.

JOURNAL OF THE REV. MR. BENHAM, SUPERINTENDENT OF THE METH. EPIS. MISSION TO THE LEEWARD STATIONS.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE REV. J. B. BENHAM.

SLOOP STAR, *March 13th*, 1846.

Dear Brother Hoyt,—As the vessel slowly proceeds on her voyage from Cape Palmas to Monrovia, making frequent calls at the native towns, for purposes of trade; I will endeavor to give you some account of my voyage, and visit to Cape Palmas; for your information, and that of the readers of

the Luminary; of which you are publisher, and for the time being, editor. In doing so perhaps I cannot do better than give you some extracts from my journal.

Feb. 28th.—By the politeness of Captain White, master, I embarked from Monrovia in the "Rhoderick Dhu," merchantman from Providence, R. I. for Cape Palmas. We set sail at an early hour, and made about 30 miles. Day pleasant. I was, or imagined myself improved by the sea breezes.

Sabbath, March 1st.—Rose early, but suffered an unusual degree of lassitude; however the morning air braced me up measurably.

I felt a longing for the privileges of the sanctuary. I hoped to have reached Cape Palmas in time for my Quarterly meeting there, but I must be content where I am. After sun set, feeling better, I preached to the crew, with some comfort to myself, and I believe serious impressions were created or revived in others. Lord give the needed increase.

Soon after I concluded, a tornado struck us, attended with heavy thunder, lightning and rain; which continued about two hours: the ship scudding before the wind with nearly bare poles at the rate of six knots an hour.

March 2d.—I supplied the crew with Bibles and Testaments, with which the officers of the American B. S. had kindly supplied us before we left New York. They were thankfully received. May the seed thus sown produce abundant fruit.

March 3d.—We saw two large sharks moving leisurely around the vessel, making seven we have seen since we left Monrovia. How many more have been watching our motions, unseen. The sailors call them "Fresh water lawyers." A large number of a species of nautilus were seen, with sails hoisted navigating the troubled ocean. A striking and beautiful illustration of skill and design in the creation.

March 5th.—We were beating about with light baffling winds most of the day nearly within sight of Cape Palmas, but could not reach it. Late in the evening reluctantly retired to my berth.

March 6th.—Arrived at Cape Palmas late in the afternoon—met Rev. F. Burns at the wharf, who welcomed me with great cordiality, and conducted me to the Mission House. Found all in health and prosperity. This is a romantic, beautiful, and for this country, healthy location. The town is built on a promontory, jutting out into the sea, about 150 feet above its level. The Americans in the town and surrounding country number about 1000. It is supposed there are 4000 natives within one mile of the Government house, besides large numbers in every direction settled in little towns. The men dress with common decency, for Africans; but their women are disgustingly naked; while children and youth of both sexes, under the ages of 12 or 14, are seen shamelessly walking the streets entirely naked. The colonists, however, speak encouragingly of *improvements* in their manners and dress since their arrival thirteen years ago! What a field for missionary exertion! Their rudeness and barbarity should be no discouragement, but rather an incentive to the most vigorous and pious efforts to enlighten and save them.

March 7th.—Passing one of the native villages in company with Brother Burns, while going from Mount Emory to Harper, we stopped to witness the ceremonies of a native funeral connected with the burial of one of their head men. They had just slaughtered a bullock, and the corpse lay in a section of a canoe ready to be conveyed to the island opposite Harper, not to be buried, but to be laid upon the surface with the canoe turned over him. We understand the bullock is slaughtered and beheaded that the dead—not having sense sufficient of his own—may make use of the beef's head to assist him the more effectually to grope his way in his journey to the next world.

At the minute of our arrival an orator was addressing, not the assembled multitude, but the *dead*, reciting the news of the day, encouraging and directing him in his journey, praising his virtues, &c. &c.

At the close of the address, two men bore him away with a quick step, followed by the multitude, weeping, wailing, clattering of horns, and gree-grees; and firing of guns.

Opposite the government house the body was lowered to the earth as the signal for a general firing. To describe this scene so as to convey an adequate idea would perhaps be impracticable. The devil priests, doctors and soldiers attired most fantastically: with horns, bones, feathers, and skins of animals commenced an irregular firing; making the most antic manœuvres and gestures, running, squatting, skulking, jumping, &c. We said to one of the natives "what do they do that for!" "He be soldier, he love shoot plenty," was the answer, as if the dead man was conscious of the honour. After this ceremony had lasted about three minutes, the bearers raised the canoe containing the corpse to their heads, and conveyed it to its resting place; followed by friends, loudly lamenting, while the multitude returned to their village. My heart was stirred within me when I saw the people thus wholly given to idolatry. Oh ye friends of the African race, say not to them "go be ye warmed and filled," but give them not those things which are needful, (viz.) an adequate supply of missionaries filled with faith and the Holy Ghost to dispel the darkness which hides the future from their view.

Sabbath, March 8th.—Having more physical energy than I had felt for some time I consented to preach twice to respectable and attentive congregations. No natives present except a few little boys belonging to our mission schools.

March 9th.—Had an interview with Grimeah, the old king of Wah-chekah, whose town is about 14 miles in the interior.

Having heard of my arrival, he had come to renew his request for a God-man to reside at his town and establish a school. While we were conferring together the clock struck, and he started up, inquiring "who is that pounding there?" Brother Burns then showed him the interior of the clock, which greatly increased his surprise. I showed him my watch as another instrument of the same kind, but less in size, and told him these were made by civilized people, and that I had no doubt his own people by becoming civilized, could make such things. At this his countenance brightened, and throwing out his arms towards his country he exclaimed, "Oh let the God-man make haste!"

I then took occasion to remind him that these were only attending, and unimportant circumstances connected with the introduction of the christian religion. The salvation of their souls in heaven, was the great object of sending them missionaries.

He gave us every encouragement we could ask, and it was left for Brother Burns to visit his town, and if the prospect was sufficiently encourging, after an interview with all the people of the town, Brother Dennis, one of our teachers, (whose place will probably be supplied by a native teacher) is to be employed there.

March 11.—Part of this day spent in laying plans for native schools at Dena, Yellow Will's Town and Palm's Town. A delegation sent to Dena returned, reporting favorably relative to the anxiety of the natives for a school—their willingness to let the mission have any amount of land needed, assisting in building, sending children, &c. It is perhaps known that this place is about 35 miles in the rear of Cape Palmas, on the Cavalla river, which is large, and navigable as far at least as this place—a populous

and influential town. It is in contemplation to cut a channel from the Cavalla to Shepherd's lake, a distance of four or five miles, which will make a safe inland navigation from Cape Palmas to Dena; a distance of fifty or sixty miles. This would greatly facilitate the conveyance of missionaries and their supplies, and would render Dena a depot of considerable importance. We have concluded to employ educated natives to teach at Yellow Will's Town and Palm's Town as an experiment.

March 12.—By the kindness of Captain Atkins I went on board the sloop Star, which is on a trading voyage up the Coast. This will give me an opportunity of calling perhaps at all our mission stations on the coast. Passengers, Mr. McFarlane, Mrs. McGill and her two girls. We beat about all day against the wind and current, and anchored about six miles from Cape Palmas.

March 13.—Two native young men shipped at Palmas slyly left us by the assistance of natives who came with a canoe. On the captain being informed of this, fired a musket at them, with the intention of bringing them too, but they only pulled the harder for the shore.

One of the sailors informed me that he had command of a small vessel on this coast, and she capsized by a gale of wind about three months ago; sixty miles south of Monrovia, and the crew remained on her bottom twelve hours. On his being discovered by the natives, he was surrounded by a large number of canoes. They took from them every portable article, not excepting their shirts; cut through the bottom of the vessel, and plunged in taking away whatever they could find. The crew were finally taken off by an English captain.

March 14.—I found myself somewhat indisposed from sleeping on deck. We anchored off the French possessions, called Jaraway, about twenty miles from Cape Palmas. We were visited by large numbers of natives, but they are said to be very treacherous.

Sunday, March 15.—We met the "Eliza Frances" Brother McGill's vessel, coming down for me. I heard nothing directly from home, but indirectly learned that Mrs. B. was taken with the fever a few days after I left, but had only a slight attack. This information in spite of all my efforts to rely calmly upon the providence of God, increases my solicitude. Lord help me to trust in Thee at all times, and not lean to my own understanding.

We anchored off Grand Cess. Many of the natives came to trade, but they were put off till Monday.

March 16.—The deck was crowded at an early hour by natives for trade.

Grand Cess is supposed to be one of the largest native towns on this coast, containing from 3 to 5000 souls. I conversed with some of the head men on the subject of admitting a missionary, but they had little to say upon that subject. Perhaps the time has not yet come to make an effort among them.

March 17.—Beat about most of the day against wind and current to little purpose.

March 18.—This morning we find ourselves opposite Little Cess, regarded as one of the most savage tribes on the coast.

The chief and many of his people visited the vessel, generally for purposes of trade, but we inferred from circumstances, that the principal business of the old chief was to have an interview with the missionary. Not to learn from him the way of salvation but to entertain him with a narrative of his personal prowess, the number and wealth of his tribe, the honour of his pedigree, &c. All this however was but a preface to the blunt request, "Can you give a poor fellow some *lum!*"—At the same time making a significant jesture with his hand to his mouth.

I of course informed him I had none, but if I had, I should not give it to

him! I gave him to understand if he was hungry I would give him bread. According to *his* account, he was hungry, and I gave him some crackers, which he put in his greasy hat and doused it on his head. I turned away from his excellency in disgust.

The captain accused him of burning the town of the Sassa people, a neighbouring tribe, and murdering many of them, merely because they had built upon an unoccupied location on the beach, where they might enjoy equal advantages with him in trade and fishing. For this, he denounced him in no measured terms. He left us, perhaps, somewhat shorn of his dignity.

March 19.—We arrived at Niffo about 70 miles from Cape Palmas. This is a large town, little less than Grand Cess. As usual, large numbers of natives visited us, and among them some of their principal men. They were quite anxious for a missionary to be stationed at their town. I accompanied them to the town, with Mr. Smith, supercargo of the vessel. As we were approaching the shore we saw large columns of smoke, about ten miles to the leeward of us. They remarked that is probably the smoke arising from the burning of a Bootah town, as they understood that the Sassa tribe had gone that morning to make war upon them. In the evening we heard the firing of muskets, and the next day learned that our conjecture was a fact. As the smoke was seen ascending, one of these friendly natives remarked, "one thing why we want God man lib in we town—so he make no more war."

The old men happened to be in an earnest "palaver" when we entered the town, upon some subject, of which we were kept ignorant. It was however waived, and I was invited to a seat in the circle. I told them I had come to see their town, when they replied "why did you not bring us rum." On my explaining myself to their satisfaction, they wished me to take off my hat that they might see my hair, this I did and combed it. It excited their surprise, and I was an object of great curiosity; especially when I rolled up my sleeve, and showed them my untanned skin. They appeared greatly pleased with the idea of a missionary establishment, but I have no doubt that mercenary motives are the principal motives which prompt them to this request. They showed me a pleasant location amid some palm trees, and said we could have as much land there as we wished,&c.

March 20.—We came to anchor at Settra Kroo, and as the vessel was to remain a day or two, I availed myself of the opportunity to visit Rev. Mr. Connelly and lady, Presbyterian missionaries. I enjoyed a very agreeable interview with this Christian family. They have a convenient establishment and fine plantation designed for a manual labour school. Their success has not equalled their labours and sacrifices. To use the language of Mr. C. "When we are just ready to seize the prize, it eludes our grasp, and we are strongly tempted to despond; but again hope, founded upon Divine assurance, urges us to renewed effort."

Here I procured a boat, and a set of Kroomen, and in company with Mr. McFarlane started for Sinoe, a distance of about 15 miles. The afternoon was pleasant, and we had a very pleasant excursion—arrived about seven o'clock and was hospitably entertained by our missionary, Rev. J. S. Payne. I found his family well, and comfortably situated. For an account of the state of his circuit I must refer to his letter published in the last number.

March 21.—In company with Rev. G. Simpson, Payne and Stevens, I ascended the Sinoe about five miles, to a settlement called Reedsville.—Here we have a thatched chapel and a mission house, which is undergoing some repairs. Some measures have been taken to erect a new church; which is greatly needed. When this shall be accomplished, it is intended to commence a day school, there being none at present in the settlement.

In the afternoon we visited Bluebarre, the native town opposite Greenville, and on the fine promontory lying between the ocean and river. Here is every thing requisite to a large town and strong fortifications. I heard to-day, what I have heard before to my surprise, that there are numbers of colonists living not only with the heathen, but as the heathen do. One man has a native town, and some five or six native women, not to say wives.—Another is a celebrated Country-Devil!

How long would it take to civilize or christianize Africa at this rate?—And what account can these men render for the violation of all rules of morality and decency?

Sabbath, March 22.—Preached at Greenville with considerable freedom and comfort, and administered the sacrament. I was taken with a chill about 4 o'clock, P. M., soon after which the "Star" came into the harbour, and fired a signal for me to go on board immediately. She hove too in waiting, and however desirous to spend the Sabbath according to the commandment, I must go then or loose my chance, I therefore bundled up and set off.

During the three succeeding days and nights I suffered considerably with the fever, having few conveniences on board for a sick man. Sister McGill did what she could to mitigate my pains.

March 26.—I found myself free from fever, though very weak. Passed Marshall, but not able to stop.

March 27.—Arrived again at Monrovia, and found several members of the mission family sick, but convalescent; including Mrs. B.

Thus I have given you a hasty sketch of my trip to Cape Palmas. Should it minister in any way to the edification of yourself or readers, I shall have gained my object.

Your fellow-labourer in the gospel of Christ, J. B. BENHAM.

ROBERTSVILLE, *April 15th*, 1846.

Rev. and Dear Sir:—As your visit to Palmas, prevented you from being at our Quarterly Meeting, I will therefore give you some account by letter of my charge. Our congregations are small, as the people around us are almost in a state of starvation. They have to leave their homes to hunt for bread, but we hope for better times. Our quarterly meeting was quite a comfortable time, and we were very sorry that you could not be with us. We had brother Roberts and Mitchell to our help, about twenty-five natives communed. We have twenty-eight boys belonging to the school at present. We have lost nine with the disease they brought with them from on board the vessel, and there are four yet sick; those of the boys who have been well are learning finely. We preach once on the Sabbath and teach the other part of the day, both here and at Heddington. The number of sabbath school scholars here is thirty; at Heddington much less, as there are no boarding scholars there.

As yet we have done but little towards repairing the buildings, having to get a farm under way, this we have very nearly finished, and we now are making ready to repair the buildings; we have already commenced the Chapel. We are in want of clothing for the boys, and should be very glad to get some for the females who attend the Church.* We need sabbath school books for beginners and about twenty-five testaments.

I remain yours, with much respect,

To Rev. J. B. Benham. BEVERLY R. WILSON.

* Similar requests are made almost every week; these garments are important as one of the first steps towards civilization. Will not the benevolent in America remember us for good.—PUB.

White Plains, *April 20th*, 1846.

Rev. J. B. Benham, Dear Sir:—Our first quarterly meeting having closed, also the first quarter of the current conference year, I doubt not but that yourself and others interested for the progress of the general work, would willingly hear something relative to this division. The duties and responsibilities necessarily devolving on one having a charge with which is connected an important manual labor establishment, to which is attached some twenty-five or thirty boys possessing manners of rudeness and barbarism which are to be corrected and instructed in the manners and arts of civilization and christianity and necessary provision made for them, is not among the smallest considerations. In view of which on entering upon the duties of said charge, I could not repress a feeling of "fear and trembling" lest I be not "sufficient for these things," but encouraged by promises of Divine aid, in a proper course of procedure, I began and continued up to the present time, with some prospect for good.

Had the state of your health allowed us the benefit of your services during our quarterly meeting, they would have been highly appreciated, and also largely contributed to the interest of the occasion; disappointed, however, in these services—by the blessing of the Lord upon the efforts and exercises (the interest of which increased with them,) we are enabled to say it was truly a time of refreshing," the whispers to the souls of believers in the still small voice announced the presence of the Lord: sinners were concerned for the salvation of their souls and manifested a desire by presenting themselves for the benefit of the prayers of the people of God: may the fruits be seen, though after many days. To record the conversion of a soul, especially an aborigine of this dark land, and when fruit, and testimony in reference to internal operations justify us to think, it is evangelical, pleasing and satisfactory. The subject of such a conversion is Henry Rundell one of the mission boys at this place. It may not extend the subject too far to mention some of the effects, which immediately followed. While setting at the table in the entry about 8 o'clock, P. M., on a certain evening my attention being interrupted (was taken off the subject under consideration,) was attracted towards the porch by a deep suppressed sound as of a groan; before I had time to inquire, or recover the hand extended to grasp mine was seen and followed by the word "Mr. Roberts, the Lord has forgiven my sins," and with streaming eyes, gave vent to his feelings by praising aloud, and saying, "my soul feel so good" like Mary upon learning of the resurrection of her Saviour; did not tarry—but in search of the disciples, H. must go and remarks, "I *must* go and tell Mrs. Carter." At quarterly meeting, he was, after baptism, received into probationary membership. May his lamp illuminate the path of many of his brethren now in darkness. Our Sabbath School is regarded with growing interest, and is in a prosperous condition—eighty or ninety pupils regularly attend. The formation of a society or perhaps re-organization of it under a constitution a few weeks previous, I hope, will increase the interest of the institution. The Seminary Primer with which you was kind enough to furnish us, greatly supplied our previous lack in books, we hope to share in your remembrance should you receive a supply.

The weekly day schools are in regular and successful operation. Of the one under the Superintending care of sister Wilkins, I deem it unnecessary to say anything. Her own communications are sufficient. I will remark, however, that the late accession to her school, the number and condition of girls from the ship "Pons" renders it one of much solicitude and labor. Consequently, we rather feared that she would totally fail, in a recent attack of illness, having been partially restored, she prosecutes her duties with wonted zeal and courage.

The school conducted by brother Paxton, if properly directed, will be of much benefit to the community wherein it is located and is worthy of continued patronage. The pupils in regular attendance, numbers forty-seven. That improvement may be made in this department, we infer from some instances. The teacher has labored under some disadvantages, these however, we anticipate, will soon be removed, when we may expect advancement.

The school at this establishment, under the tuition of brother Gripon who is an efficient auxiliary in this establishment, is made up chiefly of native children (boys), and numbers at present, thirty-two, twenty-six of whom are a part of those taken by the mission from the "Pons," we cannot speak very encouragingly of improvement in so short a period. It will require much time and labor, but even in this short space, in many there are evident marks of advancement. It is unpleasant to contemplate the mortality that has taken place among the boys since their first arrival; but upon reflection and tracing from the effect back to the cause even to the fact of intense sufferings from merciless, and worse than savage men "Slavers" it should be added to the numerous reasons, for opposition to so nefarious a traffic. Among those here, I flatter myself that there are those who will do honor to their names, and receive into everlasting habitations, those who contribute to place them in conditions of temporal and spiritual happiness. Many of these boys are desirous to have entire suits of clothes, or pantaloons, jackets and shirts; with the latter are they all principally furnished, and it would be a great satisfaction to me, if I could gratify them by furnishing the others. Should you receive a supply of the article, think of us. Three of the boys, first above mentioned, are more particularly connected with, and work in the shop, when not in school. The hours devoted to the latter, is from 9 A. M. until 1 P. M. The others are variously exercised, but principally in the way of farming, but we cannot depend much upon them yet.

In repairing the buildings, but little has been done up to the present time; enough, however, to make the dwelling house comfortable, which was much required; all the other houses want some repairs, and all of which receive our attention in the progress of our duties.

Should I be permitted to communicate again, I hope in my next to have something encouraging to say with reference to our recently formed Missionary Society. If anticipating a part of my next communication act as a propeller which I hope, I may not in any remarks therein be understood by our friends and brethren up here. "Such as they would not" with the above and best wishes for the health of yourself and entire mission family.

I close, and remain yours, respectfully, JNO. W. ROBERTS.

An extract of a letter from the Rev. F. Burns preacher-in-charge of Cape Palmas stations.

REV. AND DEAR BROTHER:—No other opportunity having presented itself since the date of my last, to forward a letter to you, I embrace this one. Instead of the journal form, as our printed instructions enjoin, in the view of the variety of topics to be embraced in this communication, I adopt the paragraphical—disposing of each subject treated under its own head, without special reference to the day or date. The convenience, preciseness, and clearness of this method, I trust will be a sufficient apology for a departure from the above mentioned instructions. I shall arrange the matter in two general divisions. And:

I. *That part of the charge lying in the Colonial Settlement,*—1*st.* Our *Quarterly Meeting*, held on the 21st and 22nd of February, was to many, a

season of refreshing. The Love-Feast was one of the best I ever had the privilege of attending. Numbers of God's people present, were unanimous in this opinion. There were no additions made to the church; but the tears shed, and the spirit manifested by the followers of Christ gave evidence of the spirit of power and edification, which the Great Head of the Church thought fit in mercy to pour out upon his people. This however, has not precluded the exercise of discipline, in the suspension and expulsion of some members of the church, who have been clearly convicted of immorality, or have continued obstinate in their improper conduct, after suitable admonitions and entreaties to reform. We are looking up for good days and the general belief is, that we shall see them.

2nd.—Repairs. These have had to be extensive, as little in this way had been done, for the last two years; which, in a climate like this, and with the materials we build of, would as a matter of course, make repairs by the third year, indispensable, both to comfort and respectability. The costs of these repairs will be quite considerable; and I am sometimes almost afraid, by being obliged to expend so much more in this direction than the estimating committee anticipated, I shall be accused of prodigality. However, as we have cut off expenditures in others quarters, we hope not to exceed the dividend for Cape Palmas in the end, though a large proportion of our expenses will fall within the first half year.

3rd.—Sabbath Schools. Of these we have two flourishing ones, perhaps not the most so; but the general regularity and interest taken in these institutions among us, is truly encouraging, and merit patronage. At Mount Emory, the Sabbath School averages about 60, but suffering materially for want of a supply of bibles, testaments, suitable reading books, and catechisms; 1 and 2 Wesleyan catechisms.—The forwarding of a good supply of Sabbath School books of different kinds to us as soon as possible, will be doing us a great favor and the children and citizens a great good. When I arrived at this station, there was no school at Tubman Town, nor had there been for sometime, for the want of books, of which at that place, they are entirely destitute. We called a Sabbath School meeting, appointed a Superintendent for the school, and pledged all the influence and books then then in our power, to meet the exigencies of the school, if any would come forward to assist as teachers, the brethren took hold—we furnished them with what books you kindly brought us, and its pupils, old and young, number 70 on an average. I spent last Sabbath afternoon with them, as the hours of school occupy from half past 2, to 4 o'clock P. M.—and a more delightful and affecting scene in a Sabbath School, I never witnessed. Men and women of families attend the school, enter the classes as pupils, and learn, (where they can obtain them) the catechisms, with much avidity, and as little seeming consideration of their age, as the younger scholars. Among these older ones, are to be found many of our Class-leaders, Stewards and Exhorters. Here too, books are wanting. More bibles and testaments. Our Wesleyan and Scriptural catechisms. I do not hesitate to say, that in both the schools, numbering 130, 8 dozen catechisms could be most profitably used. I trust, if a supply arrives, we shall not be forgotten because we are more distant. Nay, ought not some good brother, stepping up in our behalf, to have the *first choice, and the largest share.* This interest may not be long-lived, but if we can have the books we want, I am quite sanguine that it will.

4th.—Week-day School. Brother Moore's labors are very acceptable to the colonists, and very profitable too. The school averages between 30 and 35—embracing scholars pursuing the different branches of Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, Grammar and Geography. In this reference I omitted

Spelling, not because it is to be lightly esteemed, or because I think lightly of it, but because I thought it would be taken for granted among the rest enumerated. But for Spelling Books, we are lamentably deficient; and also for suitable reading books. I mean enough of any one kind for classification, so as to save the trouble, vexation, and often discouragement too, of teaching several pupils out of the same book, at the same recitation. Nothing but the testament and bible can now be used, as nothing else is possessed in sufficient quantity for this purpose. Our people are not given to catechising their children. So every Friday afternoon is set apart for the purpose of hearing the children in their catechisms. The Government schools do the same. Not good!

II. *Stations among the Natives.*

1*st.*—Brother ——— services in this mission were discontinued by yourself when you were with us. The probability of obtaining a successor to him, is yet somewhat doubtful. I have not been able to get a sight of Mary since you left, though I have been over the river for that purpose two or three times. Yellow Will, under whose protection she is, says he likes very much the proposition to employ her—that his town's people are pleased with it too, and he apologizes for my not seeing her on the score of its being busy times with natives, who are all to a man, woman and child at their rice farms. He thinks that when the heat of work is over, there will be no difficulty. Here that matter rests.

2*nd.*—I could not bring myself to consent to put a school at *Whatche-co* It is a respectable looking town, and there are children enough too, which together with the extreme anxiety of the natives there for a school, would incline one that way. But then the town of Watche-co is not more than one hour's walk, from either Gillibo, Sardaka, or Barraka. If there be any influence exerted, the circles which the three last mentioned towns shed forth respectively, ought to embrace this central town: and if things go on well and succeed, I cannot help thinking that this rational expectation, will one day be met. Their ardent desire for a school among them, is not to be taken for a sincere desire to learn what is in our eyes good and useful: nor for a sincere wish to seek and experience the power of Grace. Of this they have not any correct ideas. But cupidity and a spirit of rivalry among one another, gives existence to the morbid feeling which welcomes you to their towns. They suppose a little money will come with the teacher or God-man; and his being among them increases their respectability in the eyes of the people of other towns. So, that after all they say on the subject of schools and God-palaver their expressed anxieties for either the one or the other, is not exactly what it is often thought to be, and represented to be, "The *Macedonian* cry." This being *true*, we should not be discouraged from our work and duty; no more than Paul, who was frequently sent for by Felix with the hope of getting "money." Mercenary, as were the objects of the Roman Governor, Paul did *his duty*, and the Governor "trembled." Brother ——— connexion with the mission ceased on the 30th of March.

3*d.*—*Sardaka.* At this famous place we have been called to experience many "ups and downs" in our feelings—a great many transitions from hope to fear, and from fear to hope. The substance of our proceedings, with the documents, I now proceed to lay before you. Previous to your arrival, I had been to Sardaka—had talked the palaver with them about their past misconduct, for which they said they were exceedingly sorry,—and had obtained from them, as I told you when at this place, the often repeated promise of doing better, if we would overlook former outrages. This in the circumstances was all that I felt authorized to do. After laying these things

before you, you acquiesced in the opinion of the other teachers and myself, that the state of affairs there, justified another attempt to establish a mission school at Sardaka: and particularly as we have a house there built for this purpose 45 feet by 21. Less than this, as matters stood, I do not now see that we could do. Our board and the church knew of this school, and it was but reasonable and just on *their* account that it should not be abandoned without satisfactory grounds. As soon as practicable after your departure, I again went out there, taking with me Messrs. A. Hance and our teacher for that station, Philip Gross. I talked to them mildly but plainly about the evil report which their former ill-conduct had spread abroad concerning them. They acknowledged their wrong, and assured me that it shall not be repeated. They came to my proposals with great unanimity and apparent sincerity. The way being thus cleared to all appearance, I forthwith set about the requisite repairs mentioned to you when at this place, so as to have Mr. Gross and his family at their destined station before the ensuing rains. The site for the house was accompanied with a grant of several acres of good land, intended as the scene of manual labour operations for the pupils in the school. The carpenters, attended by Mr. Gross went out immediately, and set about the work in good spirits. But the requisite timbers were not on the ground, before they found means of making a palaver with Mr. ———, (who is now following the carpenter's business under his father-in-law, Hance) which involved the carpenters, and which rose to such a height as to cause them to leave the place abruptly in the night for home, and report to me; leaving Mr. Gross, whom the natives had, or seemed to have no disposition to disturb. Before I went to any more expense, I determined to again sound them as deeply as possible; and accordingly sent Mr. Banks, who speaks the native language well, and a confidential Cape Palmas native man, to reconnoiter and act as circumstances might direct. To the native man they disclosed their secret: which was a settled purpose to be avenged on some American for the money which the Government made them pay for beating ———. They wanted to get it out of ———, if they could; but if not, they intended to await the completion of the mission house, and then annoy, till for peace's sake, we would consent to pay it. This direct information of their design, assured me at once, that the hope of prosecuting our labours, without, to say the least of it, frequent molestation, was now blasted—that as the Colonial Authorities would not of course recede from their ground, our teacher, premises, and operations would be the subjects of continual annoyance. The fourth particular in my instructions to Messrs. Banks and Gross was complied with, immediately after this full disclosure. The Governor soon called a palaver, at which one of their most distinguished chiefs was present, and freely asserted without the attempt of concealment that neither Mr. Gross nor myself had committed the least offence. Thus we are cleared from censure even by our enemies. The authorities have now interdicted either their coming into the American settlement, or the colonists going among them on pain of punishment. I have been thus explicit, that if I have acted hastily or unwarily in any thing my error may be pointed out to me.

Our disappointment in reference to this station was very grievous, both to Mr. Gross and myself; as we both had fondly hoped here to have made a permanent stand, and done much good to the souls and bodies of the poor natives.

By this unfortunate circumstance, brother Gross is, just at present, without a definite field of labour. He is a man of about, I should think, 28 years old—is studious, intelligent for his opportunities, and pious; I should judge, deeply so. He is also willing to do any thing, in any place, and be-

ing imitative of the good, without either rant or wild fire, I cannot but hope he will yet be valuable to us—perhaps, in a higher sphere than a teacher in a school. He has a fine woman for a wife, and two children. Something will be found for him to do before long.

5th.—Barraka. To this place I have not yet been; not because I did not want to go, but I have not thought it best to go there, till Brother Banks gets his family out. I have adopted this course with the hope of quickening his pace in this important particular: for, for some reason, there seems to be a hesitancy. Nothing on his part has yet been done towards it, so far as I can learn, notwithstanding your plain talk to him and my often repeated assurances that on all hands it was expected he and his family would be there before the ensuing rains. Objections have been started, not directly from him, but his wife, that the *house* wants material repairs before it will be tenantable. A few leaks in the roof seems to be the principal defect. I have therefore authorized him to get them stopped which will cost but a trifle. If the rains come on him, before his family is at the station, with all the time, opportunity, and tendering my services at any time to assist him in moving, with which he has been favoured, I shall feel bound to discontinue him. In that event, Gross must go there forthwith.—Things do not go there as I should be glad to see them. But for better things, *hope*.

Accession of Territory.—We learn from an authentic source that Commissioner James Brown, Esq. of this county, has succeeded well in purchasing new territory. Our informant positively assures us that he had already purchased upwards of 35 or 40 miles of the coast, commencing from Little Cess, Kroo Country: and, that the natives at one or two different points, were only awaiting his arrival to make sale of *their* lands. This acquisition of coast, to our colonial jurisdiction, has long been a *desideratum with every Liberian*. Mr. Brown's purchase will include different points of the coast, a number of these points have been and are yet invaluable palm oil marts. It is for this cause alone that British traders deprecate our obtaining any claim along the oil and grain coast. They may think us unwise to expend moneys in purchasing territory that we are incompetent to hold as we are political minors, because, *forsooth*, say they, your Government is a *nondescript!!* A grand discovery—and yet there are those who expect to live in Africa and own territory.

FOURTH OF JULY CONTRIBUTIONS.

Two Dollars and Twenty-seven Cents, per Rev. D. H. Buel, from Holy Trinity Parish, Carroll County, Maryland.

TERMS.

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